

REMARKS

Claims 11-21 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 12, 13, 15-17 and 19-21 are amended and claims 11 and 14 are cancelled, thereby leaving claim 18 unchanged.

Claim 11 stands objected to because "the last section of claim 11 is redundant, repeating portions of claim 21 from which it depends". Applicant respectfully submits that the last section of claim 11 is not redundant of the subject matter of claim 21, but actually further defines the subject matter of claim 21. For example, claim 21 recited signal contacts, but did not recite limitations of + and - signal contacts (that is, not until the current amendment) and claim 11 primarily relates to + and - signal contacts and describes their arrangement. Accordingly, claim 11 does not have redundant subject matter, but does further define the subject matter of claim 21. For this reason, withdrawal of the current objection to claim 11 is respectfully requested.

Claim 15 stands objected to for lacking antecedent basis for "said transmission cable". Applicant has amended claim 15 to overcome this objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the current objection to claim 15 is respectfully requested.

Claim 20 stands objected to for lacking antecedent basis for several terms. Applicant has amended the dependency of claim 20 to depend from claim 19, rather than claim 13. With this change of dependency, all of the terms of claim 20 have proper antecedent basis. Accordingly, withdrawal of the current objection to claim 20 is respectfully requested.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter of claims 14, 15 and 19. In particular, the Examiner states that claims 14, 15 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s).

Applicant has amended independent claim 21 to include the subject matter of claim 14 and the subject matter of intervening claim 11. Accordingly, claim 21 is allowable. Claims 11 and 14 have been cancelled and the remaining claims have been amended to have the correct dependency in view of the cancellation of claims 11 and 14. Claims 12, 13 and 15-20 depend from independent claim 21 and are allowable for the same and other reasons as independent claim 21.

By this Amendment, Applicant has cancelled the rejected subject matter and corrected the objected to subject matter of this application, thereby leaving only allowed claims pending in the present application. Accordingly, the present application is in a condition for allowance.

Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the cancelled claims in one or more continuation applications.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of claims 12, 13 and 15-21 are respectfully requested.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul M. McGinley', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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